

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1, and 3 - 18 are currently pending in this application. Claim 2 has been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 3, 4 and 6 - 10 have been amended. Applicants submit that no new matter has been introduced into the application by these amendments.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner is thanked for indicating that claims 2 - 6 and 8 - 10 would be allowable, if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim, and that claims 11 - 18 contain allowable subject matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

In the Action, claims 1 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,631,234 to Russell et al. Without conceding the validity of the rejection, Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the subject matter of claim 2, which was indicated as allowable by the Examiner, thus obviating the rejection. Claim 7 depends from claim 1 and is therefore also allowable. Claims 3 - 10 depend from claim 1 and are also allowable. Claims 11 - 18 were indicated in the Action as allowed. Therefore, only allowed or allowable

Applicant: Chi et al.
Application No.: 10/729,319

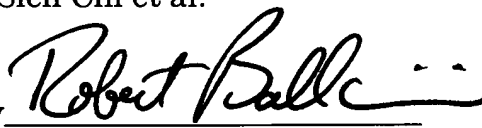
claims remain in the application. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102 is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes that any additional minor formal matters need to be addressed in order to place this application in condition for allowance, or that a telephone interview will help to materially advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone at the Examiner's convenience.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the present application, including claims 1, 3 - 18, are in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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